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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/099,648	03/15/2002	Robert J. Greiner	42390P13408	2217

7590

12/30/2004

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EXAMINER

COTTINGHAM, JOHN R

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2116

DATE MAILED: 12/30/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/099,648	Applicant(s) GREINER ET AL.	
	Examiner John R. Cottingham	Art Unit 2116	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 and 8-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 5-7 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 15 March 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National-Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>11/15/04</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

2. Claims 1-4, 8, and 13-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Thomas et al. U.S. Patent Application publication 2001/0047494. Thomas et al. shows all of the claimed subject matter of a processor in figures 1-10.

Regarding claim 1, a processor comprising: a bi-directional interface; output logic 4 to assert a first signal indicating an internal high temperature on said bi-directional interface; throttling logic 8 coupled to said bi-directional interface, said throttling logic 8 to throttle operations of said processor if either said internal high temperature is indicated by said first signal or if an external signal 12 is received on said bi-directional interface.

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Regarding claim 2, wherein said bi-directional interface is a single interface node.

Regarding claim 3, a first path for said first signal; a second path for said external signal 12; selection logic to select between said first path which disregards the external signal in a unidirectional mode and said second path which considers said external signal in a bi-directional single interface mode.

Regarding claim 4, wherein said bi-directional interface comprises a first interface node 26 and a second interface node 28, the second interface node being an input, the selection logic to further select a third path in a bi-directional dual interface mode.

Regarding claim 8, a first processor 2 comprising: a first interface node 4 to output an internal signal indicating a high temperature; a second interface node 12 to receive an external signal; throttling logic 8 to throttle said first processor in response to the internal signal or the external signal; system logic to assert said external signal.

Regarding claim 13, a method comprising: driving a first signal indicating an internally measured high temperature on a bi-directional interface; throttling operations 8 if either said first signal is driven or if an external signal is received on said bi-directional interface.

Regarding claim 14, wherein driving comprises: testing if a selected thermal metric is reached; driving the first signal if said selected thermal metric is reached. (col. 3, [0037-0038])

Regarding claim 15; wherein said interface node is a single bi-directional interface node.

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Regarding claim 16; further comprising delaying the first signal and the external signal through different delay paths.

Regarding claim 17; further comprising selecting either a first mode using a single bi-directional interface node as the interface node or a second mode using two interface nodes. (col. 3 [0037-0038]).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 9-12 and 19-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Thomas et al. U.S. Patent 2001/0047494. Thomas does not show a second processor and detecting the temperature. However, It would have been will within the level of one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have two processors and monitor the temperatures of each processor independently. Duplicating the components of a prior art device is a design consideration within the skill of the art. In re Harza, 274 F.2d 669, 124 USPQ 378 (CCPA 1960).

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 5-7 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

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6. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: the prior art of record neither teaches nor suggests all of the claimed subject matter of claim 6 including an external signal when a dual pin mode is enable.

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Senyk U.S. Patent 6,363,490 and Kramer et al. U.S. Patent 6,751,282 show similar inventions.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John R. Cottingham whose telephone number is (571) 272-7079. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday, alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynne Browne can be reached on (571)272-3670. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



John R. Cottingham

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Primary Examiner
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jrc

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